Approximately one in four of all households in the US consist of one-person. One-person households have been growing both absolutely and relatively in the past thirty years as typical family size and structure changes and we move away from the dominance of the nuclear family composed of husband, wife and two children. There are now more young single households than ever before.

Megalopolis is close to the national average. There is wide range in the region from only 13.5% (46.5% below the national mean [NM]) single person households in Stafford County VA to 48% (86.5% above NM) in New York.

The map shows the spatial distribution of percent variation from the national mean. Throughout most of the region the variation from the national mean is relatively small. In most of suburban Megalopolis values are below the national average as most households are more than one person. Somerset NJ, for example has only 22.8% (11.6% below NM) single-person households. There is a central city bias for areas above the national mean and clusters can be identified in the major cities including Washington DC, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York and Boston. Alexandria VA, Baltimore City, and Philadelphia, for example, have more than one in every three of all households is a single person. There are more housing opportunities for single person households in the central city areas and urban economies attract the younger single-person households.

**NOTE**: In the U.S. 25.8 percent of households are comprised of one person. The mean for the Megalopolis is 25.06 percent, nearly the same as for the U.S. Class intervals are shown in percents above or below the U.S. mean.